

maintain our sanctions against Iran and take decisive steps to prevent evasion. Sanctions have cut off vital resources that Iran's leaders use to enrich themselves and spread terrorism. U.S. financial sanctions make it harder for Iran to fund its ambitions to become a nuclear power.

Unfortunately, bad actors work hard to get around United States' sanctions. That is why I co-introduced the Preventing Illicit Finance Act. This bill supports our maximum pressure campaign and creates a public-private group to limit the abuse of the financial system by bad actors like Iran. My bill strengthens the United States' ability to enforce financial sanctions against Iran, Russia, and other adversaries.

Our maximum pressure campaign is working. We cannot turn a blind eye to Iran's aggressions and pursuit of terrorism. Iran must be held accountable.

By strengthening our sanctions enforcement and maintaining our tough approach, we can prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear power.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 2 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

In the waning days of this 116th Congress, we ask Your blessing upon the Members of this people's House and, most especially, upon the leadership. It is on their shoulders the most important negotiations of this Congress have been placed.

They have been entrusted by their fellow Americans with the awesome privilege and responsibility of sustaining the great experiment of democratic self-government. Give them wisdom, grace, insight, and courage to forge legislation, especially during these trying times of coronavirus pandemic, that allows us all to move forward toward an encouraging future.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, December 2, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,

The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a scanned copy of a letter received from Mr. Chris Harvey, Director of Election, Georgia Office of Secretary of State, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held December 1, 2020, the Honorable Kwanza Hall was elected Representative to Congress for the Fifth Congressional District, State of Georgia.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

Enclosure.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE,

Atlanta, GA, December 2, 2020.

Re Fifth Congressional District Runoff Special Election Unofficial Results.

Hon. CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. JOHNSON: Please accept this correspondence to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, December 1, 2020, for Representative in Congress from the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia, show that Mr. Kwanza Hall received 12,094 votes or 54% of votes of the total number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Mr. Hall was elected as Representative in Congress from the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia.

To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all jurisdictions in Clayton County, DeKalb County, and Fulton County that comprise the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

CHRIS HARVEY,
Elections Director.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE KWANZA HALL, OF GEORGIA, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Georgia, the Honorable KWANZA HALL, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no

question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will Representative-elect HALL and the members of the Georgia delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise his right hand.

Mr. HALL appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear truth faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office to which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 116th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE KWANZA HALL TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, ladies and gentlemen of the House, the Honorable KWANZA HALL is a native of Atlanta, attended Atlanta public schools, and attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He worked for the Fulton County Government. He was vice president of technology for GoodWorks International, and he is currently director of business development at Mactech Engineering.

In 2002, he was elected to the Atlanta Board of Education. In 2005, he was elected to the Atlanta City Council, District Two, where he served three consecutive terms.

Following the death of our beloved colleague, Congressman John Lewis, Kwanza qualified to run in the special election to fill the unexpired term of Congressman Lewis, which was held on November 3. There were several candidates, but none received the required majority under Georgia law.

On December 1, KWANZA won the runoff special election. His election means that the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia, in Atlanta, will be represented and have a voice during this lameduck session of the 116th Congress as we debate and, hopefully, enact, among other things, the FY 2021 appropriations bill funding the operations of the Federal Government and much-needed COVID-19 relief for America's families, businesses, and our State and local governments.

He is married to Fulton County Commissioner Natalie Hall, and they have two sons.

Madam Speaker, I yield to my colleague from the Seventh District of Georgia, the Honorable ROB WOODALL.

Mr. WOODALL. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Georgia for yielding. And I want to welcome our new colleague to the Chamber. This isn't usually the way that it is, and nothing about the path you took to get here is usually the way that it is.

But so often, on this floor, we talk about giving a voice to the voiceless, and sometimes it seems as if it is a simple cliché. I wonder how many of my colleagues would put in the kind of time and effort that we all put in to get reelected to provide a voice, not for 2 years, not even for 12 months, but for the remainder of a cycle.

It speaks to the character of Mr. HALL, and it speaks to his commitment to the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia that he put himself out there and committed himself, as he did throughout that campaign cycle, to be that voice and to make sure that there was not a day that went by that the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia could have been represented but was not.

You are joining, certainly a very special seat, but you are joining a very special delegation here, and I want to, on behalf of all of the Republicans in the Georgia delegation, congratulate you and welcome you here today.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, as dean of the Georgia delegation, it is my pleasure to present and to welcome to this House and to yield to the gentleman from Georgia's Fifth Congressional District, the Honorable KWANZA HALL.

Mr. HALL. Madam Speaker, to my colleagues from Georgia, other colleagues in the House, I am KWANZA HALL and I am so thankful to be here today.

In July, just before Congressman Lewis passed away, I had COVID, and I spent about 3 weeks lying flat dealing with it, and I didn't know I would be here. So God blessed me with that time to think about what I would do next with my life at the same time Congressman LEWIS had passed away. He was a friend. He was a neighbor. He and my father served in the civil rights movement together. My father, Leon Hall, was in Montgomery at the same time, and Selma.

So I had to think about what was next for me. And God gave me a choice: Do you want to do your business, or do you want to do My business?

And I stepped up and answered the call, and He said: I have a mission for you. The mission is to run for that office and serve District Five.

We have a lot of things on the plate in front of us, and I just want to be a unifier, a person who can help us get some things done on behalf of the least of these, as Congressman Lewis would.

So thank you all for having me. Thank you to my mother, my father, who is not with us, to the Congressmen who have come before me, Wyche

Fowler, and Ambassador Andrew Young.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath of office to the gentleman from Georgia, the whole number of the House is 431.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER). The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

LAST MINUTE COVID-19 RELIEF

(Ms. UNDERWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, it has been 6 months since the President signed coronavirus relief legislation. Since then, the House has passed two comprehensive bills to deliver urgently needed relief. Senate Republicans and the Trump administration need to do the same.

Northern Illinoisans are doing everything they can to be safe and provide for their families, but this is a once-in-a-century pandemic and no community can weather this alone. We must come together.

America is nearing a million new cases a week. Families are struggling and facing an uncertain future. Small businesses are closing their doors. Children are going hungry.

If we, as a Congress do not act now, folks at home will be forced to face their toughest winter yet, without the support they need as human beings and deserve as Americans.

Our communities are working together to help mitigate the spread of this virus. Now Congress must work together to pass a robust, evidence-based relief package. The American people are doing everything they can. Congress must do so, too.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FRED RANDLE

(Mr. WESTERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Fred Randle.

Mr. Randle was a longtime Hot Springs resident who was part of Merrill's Marauders during World War II. Merrill's Marauders were U.S. soldiers who fought in the Pacific Theater, using jungle warfare techniques to penetrate deep behind enemy lines. In just 5 months, the Marauders advanced 720 miles through some of the

harshest jungle terrain in the world. Upon return, each man in the unit was awarded a Bronze Star.

Mr. Randle's book, "Hell on Land, Disaster at Sea—the Story of Merrill's Marauders and the Sinking of the Rhona," described his experience watching the sinking of this ship in 1943. He was one of a handful of men with the Marauders who had been sworn to secrecy about the sinking for 57 years, since it was caused by the world's first guided missile.

Mr. Randle passed away at the age of 97 on November 23, 2020. But before he did, we were able to contact him and his family and let them know that a Congressional Gold Medal will be placed in the Smithsonian in his honor.

Perhaps there is no better tribute to his life than in the words of his family, He loved the Lord and he loved the United States flag.

□ 1215

PROTECTING THE PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM ACT

(Ms. CRAIG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because COVID-19 is threatening the American Dream across Main Streets throughout Minnesota and this Nation. Small business relief is needed now more than ever.

Unfortunately, the support we have provided is poised to become a significant tax burden for some business owners due to a misguided interpretation by the Treasury Department. We cannot allow struggling businesses to be taxed on the aid we have provided to them as a lifeline.

Fortunately, there is a solution in place to rectify this mistake. In May, I joined Representatives LIZZIE FLETCHER and ANDY KIM to introduce H.R. 6574, the Protecting the Paycheck Protection Program Act, which would ensure that PPP loan recipients whose loans are forgiven are not required to treat the loan proceeds as taxable income.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in defending our Nation's small businesses by supporting this common-sense legislation.

REMEMBERING SENATOR TOM CASPERSON

(Mr. BERGMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Michigan's First Congressional District in memory of a friend, devoted father and husband, and dedicated public servant, Senator Tom Casperson, who passed away on Sunday, November 29, after a hard-fought and courageous battle with cancer.

Senator Casperson served in the Michigan Legislature for 14 years and